

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF WEST VIRGINIA  
CHARLESTON DIVISION**

**IN RE: ETHICON, INC. PELVIC REPAIR  
SYSTEM PRODUCTS LIABILITY  
LITIGATION**

**THIS DOCUMENT RELATES TO  
ETHICON WAVE 7 CASES**

**Master File No. 2:12-MD-02327  
MDL No. 2327**

**JOSEPH R. GOODWIN  
U.S. DISTRICT JUDGE**

**MEMORANDUM IN SUPPORT OF DEFENDANTS' MOTION TO  
EXCLUDE CERTAIN GENERAL OPINIONS OF DANIEL ELLIOTT, M.D.**

Defendants Ethicon, Inc. and Johnson & Johnson (hereinafter "Ethicon") submit this brief in support of their motion to exclude certain general opinions of Daniel Elliott, M.D., as it relates to the cases set forth in Exhibit A to Ethicon's accompanying motion.

Ethicon's brief in this wave of cases is very similar to its brief submitted for the Wave 3 cases (Dkt. No. 2815), and Ethicon has incorporated herein by reference several aspects of that brief. As set forth herein, Ethicon presents certain arguments that have not previously been presented, that were reserved or not previously addressed by the Court, and/or that have been supplemented with additional authorities, including as follows: (a) in Section I, Ethicon requests that the Court limit Dr. Elliott's warning opinions consistent with its rulings applicable to other urogynecologists and pelvic surgeons; (b) in Section II, Ethicon requests that the Court preclude Dr. Elliott from comparing Ethicon's devices with traditional surgical procedures consistent with recent rulings by this Court and others; and (c) in Section V, this brief highlights a *Daubert* ruling by the United States District for the Northern District of Illinois as it relates to a Wave 1 case remanded from this Court (*see Walker v. Ethicon, Inc.*, 2017 WL 2992301 (N.D. Ill. June 22, 2017)).

## INTRODUCTION

Dr. Elliott is a pelvic surgeon and urogynecologist in Minnesota with experience in the surgical treatment of stress urinary incontinence (“SUI”) Ex. B, curriculum vitae. In two remaining cases in this wave, Dr. Elliott intends to provide general opinions about TTV and TTV-O (collectively “the TTV Devices”) used to treat SUI. Ex. C & D, Expert Reports. As set forth below, the Court should preclude Dr. Elliott from testifying about matters that are beyond his expertise, that are unreliable, that are irrelevant, and/or that are otherwise improper.

## LEGAL ARGUMENT

Ethicon incorporates by reference the standard of review for *Daubert* motions set forth by the Court in *Huskey v. Ethicon, Inc.*, 29 F. Supp. 3d 691, 701 (S.D.W. Va. 2014).

### **I. The Court should limit Dr. Elliott’s product warning opinions.**

Dr. Elliott claims that the TTV Devices’ instructions for use (“IFUs”) are not adequate. *See* Ex. C, TTV Report at 31-37; Ex. D, TTV-O Report at 37-40. Ethicon requests that the Court confine Dr. Elliott’s testimony on this issue in the same manner that it has confined all other urogynecologists and pelvic surgeons.

Specifically, this Court has found that “[w]hile an expert who is an obstetrician and gynecologist may testify about the specific risk of implanting mesh and whether those risks appeared on the relevant IFU, the same expert must possess additional expertise to offer expert testimony about what information should or should not be included in an IFU.” *See, e.g., In re: Ethicon Inc. Pelvic Repair Sys. Prod. Liab. Litig.*, 2016 WL 4582220, at \*3 (S.D. W. Va. Sept. 1, 2016) (limiting Dr. Bobby Shull); *In re: Ethicon, Inc. Pelvic Repair Sys. Prod. Liab. Litig.*, 2016 WL 4536885, at \*2 (S.D.W. Va. Aug. 30, 2016) (limiting Dr. Michael Margolis) *In re: Ethicon*

*Inc. Pelvic Repair Sys. Prod. Liab. Litig.*, MDL No. 2327, 2016 WL 4500767, at \*4 (S.D.W. Va. Aug. 26, 2016) (limiting Dr. Jerry Blaivas).

Dr. Elliott's opinions fall squarely within these holdings. Dr. Elliott opines that the IFUs were inadequate because Ethicon did not include information about certain risks. *See, e.g.*, Ex. C, TVT Report at 31-37. However, Dr. Elliott's curriculum vitae does not identify any additional expertise to render an opinion about the adequacy of Ethicon's IFUs, as the Court has required of other experts in this litigation. Dr. Elliott's qualifications as it relates to this topic are no different than the qualifications of the other urogynecologists whose opinions the Court has limited. Accordingly, Ethicon requests that the Court limit Dr. Elliott from testifying about whether specific risks appeared in the IFUs and preclude him from testifying about whether other risks "should or should not be included in an IFU." *In re: Ethicon, Inc. Pelvic Repair Sys. Prod. Liab. Litig.*, 2016 WL 4536885, at \*2.

**II. The Court should preclude Dr. Elliott from testifying that non-synthetic mesh procedures are a safer alternative.**

Dr. Elliott generally takes the position that the Prolene mesh in the TVT Devices is unsafe. He opines that autologous slings and Burch colposuspension are safer alternative procedures for the treatment of SUI. Ex. C, TVT Report at 8-9; Ex. D, TVT-O Report at 8-9. The Court should exclude these opinions which are irrelevant and unreliable.

**A. Dr. Elliott's opinions on this topic are irrelevant.**

Any alleged comparative benefits of the traditional approaches to treat SUI recommended by Dr. Rosenzweig are not even relevant to Plaintiffs' design defect claims, because these approaches are not even a medical device and do not entail altering the design of the devices. Ethicon challenged these opinions in its Wave 1 briefing, and the Court determined that "[t]he relevance of this expert testimony is better decided on a case-by-case basis," and therefore,

reserved ruling. *In re Ethicon, Inc. Pelvic Repair Sys. Prod. Liab. Litig.*, 2016 WL 4500765, at \*3 (S.D.W. Va. Aug. 26, 2016). Since that time, however, the Court has issued several rulings suggesting that this should be revisited.

First, the Court has determined that opinions about alternative procedures are not a case-specific issue, but instead, an issue within “the province of a general causation expert—not a specific causation expert.” *Brooks v. Ethicon, Inc.*, No. 2:12-cv-02865, Mem. Op. at 4 (S.D.W. Va. July 12, 2017), Ex. E hereto.

Second, this Court recently precluded one of Plaintiffs’ other general causation experts, Dr. Nathan Goodyear, from offering very similar opinions. In *In re: Ethicon, Inc. Pelvic Repair Sys. Prod. Liab. Litig.*, 2017 WL 1264620, at \*3 (S.D.W. Va. Mar. 29, 2017), the Court stated:

Ethicon argues that Dr. Goodyear’s opinions regarding *alternative procedures* are irrelevant to the question of whether a safer alternative design of a product exists. Ethicon states, “[A] medical device *product* is not defective in design simply because alternative surgical and nonsurgical *procedures* may exist.” Defs.’ Mem. Supp. Mot. 4. ***I agree with Ethicon that alternative procedures/ surgeries do not inform the issue of whether an alternative design for a product exists.*** Accordingly, Ethicon’s Motion on this point is **GRANTED** and Dr. Goodyear’s alternative procedures testimony is **EXCLUDED**.

(Emphasis added).

Third, in interpreting West Virginia law in *Mullins v. Johnson & Johnson*, 2017 WL 711766, at \*2 (S.D.W. Va. Feb. 23, 2017), the Court explicitly found that “[e]vidence that a surgical procedure should have been used in place of a device is not an alternative, feasible design in relation to the TTV.” The Court reasoned that “other surgeries or procedures do not inform the jury on *how* the TTV’s design could have feasibly been made safer to eliminate the risks that caused the plaintiffs’ injuries.” *Id.* (emphasis in original). The Court further found that “the plaintiffs must provide evidence of an alternative, feasible design for the *product* at issue,” which entails “provid[ing] sufficient evidence to identify a comparable product or design

concept, whether the *design features* of the comparable product or the *design concept* existing at the time of the [device's] manufacture . . . .” *Id.* at \*3 (emphasis in original). *See also Schmidt v. C.R. Bard, Inc.*, 2013 WL 3802804, at \*2 (D. Nev. July 22, 2013) (“[N]on-mesh repair is not an alternative design and does not meet Plaintiff’s burden to support” a design-defect claim).<sup>1</sup>

As in *Mullins*, the state law applicable to the two cases set forth in Exhibit A hereto (West Virginia and Ohio) require proof of a safer alternative design. *See* Ohio Rev. Code § 2307.75(F).

The notion that traditional surgical procedures are safer alternatives to Ethicon’s devices “really takes issue with the choice of treatment made by [the patient]’s physician, not with a specific fault of” the medical device. *Theriot v. Danek Med., Inc.*, 168 F.3d 253, 255 (5th. Cir. 1999)). Notably, **Dr. Elliott fully agrees**. Dr. Elliott has acknowledged that autologous slings and the Burch procedure are not medical devices. Ex. F, 9/26/15 Dep. 23:18-20, 25:3-5, 28:22-24. According to Dr. Elliott: “[W]hen we’re talking about safety and complications, it’s comparing apples and oranges because there is no medical device placed in those patients that’s permanent. . . . Therefore, the bar is changed for the pubovaginal and Burch . . . . So really you can’t compare TVT mesh, or any mesh for that matter, and the Burch or autologous fascia for that matter.” *Id.* at 74:2-4, 93:18-21, 103:21-22 (emphasis added); *see also id.* at 73:23-24.

Thus, Dr. Elliott’s opinions about these traditional surgical procedures are not changes to the design feature or the design concept of the device at issue; instead, his opinions would eliminate the device in its entirety. *See also Nease v. Ford Motor Co.*, 848 F.3d 219, 234 (4th Cir. 2017) (finding that controlling case law may “only be read to require the production of

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<sup>1</sup> These rulings are in accord with others. *See, e.g., Linsley v. C.R. Bard, Inc.*, 2000 WL 343358, \*3 (E.D. La. Mar. 30, 2000) (holding that while there existed “alternative techniques” for the mesh surgery, such techniques did not prove an “alternative design” for the polypropylene surgical mesh product). They reflect a general principle of product liability law that applies whenever a safer alternative design is claimed.

evidence on reasonable alternative design, to gauge what ‘should have been’”) (quoting Restatement (Third) of Torts: Products Liability § 2, Reporter’s Note (1998)).

**B. Dr. Elliott’s comparison of the TVT Devices with traditional surgical procedures is unreliable.**

Another reason the Court should preclude Dr. Elliott from comparing the TVT Devices with a traditional surgical procedure is that his opinions are admittedly unreliable. Asked why his expert report did not set forth any opinion about TVT complication rates, Dr. Elliott responded that it was “[b]ecause *we don’t know* the true complication rate.” Ex. F, 9/26/15 Dep. 196:7-14; *see also id.* at 110:13-17 (emphasis added). For this reason alone, the Court should exclude Dr. Elliott’s opinions. Because Dr. Elliott admittedly does not feel qualified to testify about complication rates, he is not competent to opine that TVT Devices pose a higher risk of complications than non-mesh procedures.

Dr. Elliott’s opinions should also be excluded because, rather than relying on medical studies and other sound scientific methodology in support of his opinions as required by *Daubert*, Dr. Elliott improperly relies on a perceived *lack of data* as a basis for his opinions. According to Dr. Elliott, “[t]he data overall with all sling products is very poor,” including studies relating to autologous slings, “[a]nd that’s why we’re in the situation we’re in now.” *Id.* at 63:11-14, 75:17-76:21; 79:13-14. Dr. Elliott stated that he disagrees with the American Urological Association’s (“AUA’s”) conclusion that synthetic polypropylene mesh has minimal morbidity compared to alternatives, but the basis for his disagreement simply is his belief that “there have been very few randomized control trials, none which are long-term, comparing head-to-head autologous pubovaginal slings versus TVT.” *Id.* at 118:19-25; *see also id.* at 123:19-24; 187:21-188:1.

Aside from the fact that Dr. Elliott has a misperception about TTV Device literature, Dr. Elliott improperly infers that this perceived lack of studies demonstrates that the AUA is wrong and that TTV is less safe than alternative surgical approaches. The essence of Dr. Elliott's opinions is that: (a) he is not really sure whether or not TTV Devices are safer than alternative procedures; (b) Ethicon should have conducted additional testing before marketing the devices; and (c) because Ethicon did not do so, he will assume that the TTV Devices are not as safe. This approach is far from trustworthy scientific methodology.

When asked about mesh-related pain, Dr. Elliott conceded: "The true incidence, unfortunately, is not known." Ex. F, 9/26/15 Dep. 261:1-5. He further testified:

Q. Now, I believe you said that you believe that the long-term dyspareunia rates with the TTV were higher than pubovaginal, did you say, and the Burch?

A. I don't recall if I mentioned the Burch in there. What I mentioned was the pubovaginal and the Burch have traditionally been a very common procedure done up until the mid-'90s and into probably early 2000's. And in my practice, I have never seen a woman come in with severe pain, life altering pain from either of those aforementioned procedures. But I see it commonly, weekly with the meshes, including the TTV.

Q. You can't point to any comparative trials that show a statistically significantly higher rate of dyspareunia for the TTV retropubic device compared to either the Burch or the pubovaginal sling; correct?

A. Those studies, as you've mentioned, *have not been done*.

Q. And actually, the one paper you pointed me to earlier about the Burch had the 4 percent rate of dyspareunia with that procedure long-term; correct?

A. It wasn't 4 percent. It was 3.9 percent.<sup>2</sup> . . .

Q. Okay. And you can't point to any studies on TTV that show a rate higher than 3.9 percent at that length of follow-up for dyspareunia; can you?

MR. CARTMELL: Object to the form.

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<sup>2</sup> Dr. Elliott refused to state whether he felt that 3.9% was acceptable. Ex. F, 9/26/15 Dep. 67:21-68:23. This same Burch study upon which Dr. Elliott relied showed an alarming 22% rate of urgency at long term follow up, demonstrating that the procedure is much less efficacious than TTV. *Id.* at 67:4-6; Ex. G.

A. *Because that study has not been done.* As I mentioned, no studies focused specifically on output -- end point of dyspareunia have been done.

*Id.* at 327:13-329:2 (emphasis added).

In fact, such studies have been done, and Dr. Elliott has chosen to ignore them. For instance, Heinonen and others performed a 10-year TVT study reporting zero cases of dyspareunia at 10 years follow-up, thus demonstrating that Dr. Elliott's understanding is flat wrong. Ex. H. Dr. Elliott could not recall whether he had reviewed that study. Ex. F, 9/26/15 Dep. at 329:11-21. Nor could Dr. Elliott reconcile his testimony with the AUA guideline and Society of Gynecological Surgeons' meta-analysis and systematic review, both of which reported higher rates of dyspareunia, pain, and sexual dysfunction with the autologous sling and Burch procedure as compared to mid-urethral mesh devices. *Id.* at 331:20-332:3; Ex. I & J. Even Dr. Elliott's own employer, the Mayo Clinic, advertises that "[u]sing surgical mesh is a safe and effective way to treat stress urinary incontinence." Ex. K.

Dr. Elliott has also arbitrarily discounted literature that he, himself, cites in his report. For instance, when asked about a Cochrane review cited in his own report, (Ex. L; Ex. C, TVT Report at 37 n. 98), Dr. Elliott testified as follow:

Q. BY MR. SNELL: And this Cochrane Review you cite to in your report does say that "The reported occurrence of problems with sexual intercourse including pain was low" [concerning mesh devices]; correct?

A. That's what they state, yes.

Q. And you didn't acknowledge that point in your report; did you?

A. I talk about dyspareunia in there.

Q. Did you acknowledge that the Cochrane Review that you cite to states that problems with sexual intercourse, including pain, were low in your report?

A. I don't recall using those specific words, no.

Q. Why not?

A. Because, again, this is a meta-analysis of poor quality or moderate quality studies that do not focus on dyspareunia. And specifically they're short-term studies. It does not tell -- also, these are in the hands of experts, high-volume surgeons. Does not tell us the rate of the true average surgeon out there, which is known to be much higher.

Ex. F, 9/26/15 Dep. 111:3-25. In fact, the authors of that Cochrane review upon which Dr. Elliott supposedly relied concluded: "Mid-urethral sling operations have been the most extensively researched surgical treatment for stress urinary incontinence (SUI) in women and have a good safety profile. Irrespective of the routes traversed, they are highly effective in the short and medium term, and accruing evidence demonstrates their effectiveness in the long term. This review illustrates their positive impact on improving the quality of life of women with SUI." Ex. 4, to 9/26/15 Dep. (Ex. F), at 3.

In *Winebarger v. Boston Scientific Corp.*, 2015 WL 1887222, at \*8 (S.D. W. Va. Apr. 24, 2015), this Court noted that "[a]n expert's opinion may be unreliable if he fails to account for contrary scientific literature and instead "selectively [chooses] his support from the scientific landscape." (Citations omitted). Here, Dr. Elliott has achieved the conclusion that he wants to achieve by cherry-picking favorable portions of certain papers while arbitrarily rejecting unfavorable portions of those same papers. In the same manner, he has arbitrarily discounted other studies that do not comport with the opinions he would like to offer in this case. Because Dr. Elliott's failure to account for this literature is not based on any sound scientific principles, his opinions are unreliable and should be excluded.

Finally, the Court should find that Dr. Elliott's personal experiences—unsupported by any trustworthy scientific methodology—fall short of setting forth a reliable foundation for his

opinions.<sup>3</sup> In *Winebarger*, this Court found that an expert “may not solely rely on his personal observations, especially when he seeks to provide broad opinions.” 2015 WL 1887222, at \*10. *See also Cisson v. C.R. Bard, Inc.*, 948 F. Supp. 2d 589, 606 (S.D. W. Va. 2013) (finding that an expert’s calculation of complications rates based on his personal experiences “has no basis in any reliable methodology”). Here, Dr. Elliott seeks to offer broad opinions that are based on his personal experiences. Not only are these personal experiences uncorroborated by scientific studies, they are inconsistent with scientific studies. Accordingly, Dr. Elliott’s opinions do not satisfy the rigors of *Daubert* scrutiny and should be excluded. Alternatively, the Court should reserve ruling on this issue. *See In re: Ethicon, Inc. Pelvic Repair Sys. Prod. Liab.. Litig.*, 2016 WL 4500766, at \*4 (S.D. W. Va. Aug. 26, 2016).

**III. The Court should preclude Dr. Elliott from testifying that a device with lighter weight, larger pore mesh would serve as a safer alternative.**

Ethicon adopts its Wave 3 argument on this issue set forth in Section II.B of Doc. 2815.

**IV. The Court should preclude Dr. Elliott from criticizing the cut of TVT mesh.**

Ethicon adopts its Wave 3 argument on this issue set forth in Section III of Doc. 2815.

**V. The Court should not allow Dr. Elliott to criticize Ethicon’s level of testing and studies.**

In his reports, Dr. Elliott criticizes Ethicon for allegedly failing to comply with certain duties owed by a medical device manufacturer. In particular, he faults Ethicon for allegedly not performing certain testing and conducting studies. *See, e.g.*, Ex. C, TVT Report at 29, 33-34, 37; Ex. D, TVT-O Report at 30-31, 35-36, 40-41; Ex. F, 9/26/15 Dep. 240:17-19, 259:8-10, 271:9-16, 275:4-9, 303:21-23. The Court should exclude these opinions, which are of questionable

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<sup>3</sup> Dr. Elliott testified about a basic unfamiliarity with autologous sling literature and the experiences of other physicians, stating that “I can’t speak to those. I can speak to my own experience.” Ex. F, 9/26/15 Dep. 315:24-25; *see also id.* at 316:21-317:18.

relevance, because Dr. Elliott is not competent to testify about the level of testing that a manufacturer, such as Ethicon, should have performed.

As an initial matter, a lack of testing or a flaw in the design process is not, standing alone, a design defect. *See, e.g., Green v. General Motors Corp.*, 310 N.J. Super. 507, 529 (App. Div. 1998) (“[A] product that is not defective and has not been tested at all remains free of a defect”). The “failure to test” claim here should be seen for what it is—a transparent attempt to shift the burden to the *defendant* to prove the absence of the defect when the plaintiff cannot carry her burden to prove the existence of a defect.

Even if the degree of testing were relevant, there is nothing in Dr. Elliott’s background that would provide him with specialized knowledge about the testing that Ethicon or other medical device manufacturers supposedly should have performed. He has never manufactured or even worked on the design of a medical device, much less had any involvement with FDA clearance of a medical device. Dr. Elliott’s resume does “not include knowledge or even experience in the manner in which corporations and the [medical device] marketplace react, behave or think regarding their non-scientific goals of maintaining a profit-making organization that is subject to rules, regulations, standards, customs and practices among competitors and influenced by shareholders or public opinion.” *In re Diet Drugs Prods. Liab. Litig.*, 2000 WL 876900, at \*9 (E.D. Pa. June 20, 2000).

Because Dr. Elliott has no relevant experience, he is unable to identify a single rule or regulation that would require Ethicon to conduct different testing. Moreover, Dr. Elliott does not identify *any* basis or reason for these opinions, as he must. Instead, his opinion apparently is based purely on unscientific personal belief. When asked about how certain studies/testing

should be conducted, Dr. Elliott responded that he did not know. *See, e.g.*, Ex. F, 9/26/15 Dep. Tr. 259:17-21 (“The basic unfortunate reality is it – I don’t know if it could be done”).

Further, a fundamental problem with Dr. Elliott’s opinion that Ethicon should have conducted additional testing and studies before marketing the devices is that Dr. Elliott can only speculate about what those results would have shown. Thus, as noted by one court, “imposition of liability for breach of an independent duty to conduct long-term testing, where the causal link to the known harm to plaintiff is the *unknown outcome of testing that was not done*, would be beyond the pale of any California tort doctrine we can identify.” *Valentine v. Baxter Healthcare Corp.*, 68 Cal. App. 4th 1467, 1486 (1999) (emphasis in original).

This Court has consistently precluded other surgeons from testifying about this issue. In its Wave 1 rulings, the Court found that “[t]here is no indication that Dr. [Bruce] Rosenzweig has any experience or knowledge on the appropriate testing a medical device manufacturer should undertake.” *In re: Ethicon, Inc. Pelvic Repair Sys. Prod. Liab. Litig.*, 2016 WL 4500765, at \*5 (S.D.W. Va. Aug. 26, 2016); *see also Huskey v. Ethicon, Inc.*, 29 F. Supp.3d 691, 705 (S.D.W. Va. July 8, 2014) (finding that “there is no indication that [plaintiff’s pelvic surgeon expert] has any experience or knowledge on the appropriate testing a medical device manufacturer should undertake”); *Carlson v. Boston Scientific Corp.*, 2015 WL 1931311, at \*15 (S.D.W. Va. Apr. 28, 2015) (finding that because pelvic surgeon “has no demonstrated training in, knowledge about, or experience with the design of clinical trials or the process of testing medical devices, his opinion falls short of Federal Rule of Evidence 702 and cannot be admitted”). Further, the Court has determined that “[w]hether Ethicon studied certain issues, provided information, or provided guidance are all examples of corporate conduct.” *Bellew v. Ethicon, Inc.*, 2014 WL 12685965, at \*9 (S.D. W. Va. Nov. 20, 2014).

Recently, another federal district court, on remand from this Court, agreed with this Court’s reasoning and precluded Dr. Bobby Shull from testifying about research and testing, finding that “Plaintiffs have not shown that Dr. Shull is qualified to testify regarding the standard of care for medical device testing,” and that his opinions about the extent of testing “would merely address facts found in corporate documents.” *Walker v. Ethicon, Inc.*, 2017 WL 2992301, at \*5 (N.D. Ill. June 22, 2017). *See also In re: Silicone Gel Breasts Implants Prod. Liab. Litig.*, 318 F. Supp. 2d 879, 901-02 (C.D. Cal. Apr. 22, 2004) (finding that a chemist was not qualified to criticize defendants’ alleged lack of testing and noting that “Plaintiff proffers no evidence that [the expert] has any experience developing an implantable medical device for general use or that he has any foundational knowledge about what standard practices exist in the industry in this regard”).

For these reasons, the Court should preclude Dr. Elliott from offering such testimony in these cases. *See also Hovey v. Cook, Inc.*, 2015 WL 1405565, at \*11 (S.D. W. Va. Mar. 26, 2015) (noting in *Daubert* ruling that “plaintiff concedes that ‘Dr. Elliott will not testify that defendant had an obligation to study and failed to do so’”).

**VI. The Court should preclude Dr. Elliott from testifying about alleged mesh degradation, shrinkage, contraction, and other biomaterials opinions.**

Ethicon adopts its Wave 3 argument on this issue set forth in Section V of Doc. 2815.

**VII. The Court should not allow other opinions beyond Dr. Elliott’s expertise and/or that are otherwise improper.**

Ethicon adopts its Wave 3 argument on this issue set forth in Section VI of Doc. 2815. Ethicon would further note that, in its prior wave rulings, the Court did not address Ethicon’s arguments that Dr. Elliott should be precluded from testifying about cancer and other complications allegedly associated with the TTV Devices that a particular Plaintiff did not

sustain. As this Court has recognized, “[e]vidence of complications that the plaintiff did not experience is irrelevant and lacking in probative value.” *Bellew v. Ethicon, Inc.*, 2014 WL 12685965, at \*10 (S.D.W. Va. Nov. 20, 2014).

## CONCLUSION

For the foregoing reasons, the Court should limit Dr. Elliott’s testimony in these cases.

Respectfully Submitted,

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**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
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<b>THIS DOCUMENT RELATES TO ETHICON WAVE 7 CASES</b>	<b>JOSEPH R. GOODWIN U.S. DISTRICT JUDGE</b>

**CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I, William M. Gage, certify that on this day I electronically filed the foregoing document with the Clerk of the Court using the CM/ECF system which will send notification of such filing to the CM/ECF participants registered to receive service in this MDL.

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